



# IDAHO COMMISSION ON AGING

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C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor  
Kim Wherry Toryanski, Administrator

Transmittal # 13

March 27, 2009

**To** Workforce Development Council

**From** Kim Wherry Toryanski, Administrator  
Melinda Adams, Older Worker Coordinator  
Idaho Commission on Aging

**Subject** Economic Stimulus Funds: Community Service Employment for Older Americans

**Action Requested** Approval to expend funds appropriated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, PL 111-05

## Background

The Idaho Commission on Aging is the designated administrative entity for the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). The SCSEP Program is authorized by Title V of the Older Americans Act. The Idaho Commission on Aging (ICOA) is also the state agency designated to administer all programs under the Older Americans Act.

As required by the Recovery Act, the U. S. Department of Labor will allocate funds to SCSEP grantees; funding is based on each grantee's current share of the SCSEP allocation for Program Year 2008. Each state's share is based on the number of individuals residing in the state, 55 years and above, whose family income is at or below poverty.

## Purpose of Recovery Act Funds

Current SCSEP grantees are required to use the Recovery Act funds to support additional training and employment opportunities for unemployed low-income seniors. The intent is to expand the number of SCSEP participants assigned to community service work, especially in those growth industries emphasized in the Recovery Act (e.g. health care, child care, education, green jobs, energy efficiency and environmental service) and in expanded public service activities that utilize Recovery Act funds.

The wages paid to these low-income seniors are intended to provide a direct stimulus to the economies of local communities, which will also benefit from the community service work performed by SCSEP participants. The Recovery Act funds are to supplement, not supplant,

*Our vision is to ensure that all Idahoans retain their autonomy to determine their own life course as they age.*

ongoing SCSEP funding. Funds are required to be allocated to regions on the same methodologies used for SCSEP funds. Non-federal match (10%) is required.

Approximately 21 additional individuals will be served by the new funding. Participants will be encouraged and trained to find unsubsidized employment at the conclusion of the stimulus funding. Ongoing SCSEP services will continue with existing funding.

### **Program Development**

In conjunction with the Idaho Department of Labor, U. S. Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, and the Idaho State Division of Professional Technical Education, ICOA is exploring the feasibility of creating a Pharmacy Technician Training Pilot for older, low-income adults. This pilot program would be funded through a combination of Workforce Investment Act funds, Recovery Act Funds, SCSEP funds and possibly, WIRED funds (if the pilot is launched within Region IV). At the conclusion of the funding, the Pharmacy Technician Training model and curriculum will have been developed and refined so it can be duplicated in other Idaho communities.

The USDOL requires that a comprehensive grant agreement be developed by June 30, 2009.

### **Approximate Allocation of Funds (subject to final guidelines issued by USDOL)**

\$ 94,730	Enrollee Wages and Fringe Benefits (75% of Grant Funds)
\$ 27,596	Front-line staff, enrollee support services (books, supplies, classroom training, transportation assistance, etc.)
<u>\$ 3,980</u>	Retained by ICOA for program development and administrative oversight
\$126,306	Total Federal Funds

### **Action Requested**

Approval to expend funds appropriated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.